

SECRET

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IN 98937

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1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN BURBANK DAILY REVIEW 7 JAN 67.

"LOCKHEED SR-71 LOST IN NEVADA - A LOCKHEED-BUILT SR-71 RECONAISSANCE JET, FASTEST OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT IN THE WORLD, IS MISSING AND PRESUMED LOST IN A REMOTE NEVADA AREA EAST OF LAS VEGAS.

SPOKESMEN AT EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE SAID THE EXPERIMENTAL MODEL OF THE TRIPLE-SONIC SR-71, SUCCESSOR TO THE U-2 SPY PLANE, WAS UNREPORTED SINCE 4 P.M. THURSDAY ON A ROUTINE TEST FLIGHT. AT THE TIME IT CONTAINED ENOUGH FUEL FOR ONLY 90 MINUTES OF FLIGHT.

THE HUGE, JAVELIN-SHAPED, 2,000 MILE PER HOUR PLANE WAS BEING FLOWN BY A LOCKHEED TEST PILOT WHO WAS NOT IDENTIFIED PENDING DETERMINATION OF HIS FATE.

AN AIR SEARCH WAS LAUNCHED FOR THE CRAFT BUT BY LATE THIS MORNING

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THERE WERE NO REPORTS ON EITHER THE PLANE OR THE PILOT.

THE APPARENT CRASH MARKS THE SECOND TIME ONE OF THE EXPERIMENTAL CRAFTS HAVE GONE DOWN ALTHOUGH THE FIRST WAS NOT DESTROYED. ITS TWO PILOTS EJECTED OVER NEW MEXICO DURING AN UNDISCLOSED AIR EMERGENCY BUT THE PLANE REPORTEDLY LANDED ALMOST INTACT, PLOWING INTO SOFT EARTH IN VIRTUALLY LEVEL FLIGHT.

ONE TEST PILOT, JAMES ZWAYER OF LANCASTER, WAS KILLED IN PARACHUTING FROM THE CRAFT. THE OTHER, WILLIAM A. WEAVER, OF NORTHRIDGE, SURVIVED WITH MINOR INJURIES."

2. PHOTO OF AN SR-71 ALSO APPEARED WITH CAPTION READING:

"A LOCKHEED-BUILT SR-71 AIRCRAFT, SIMILAR TO ONE SHOWN IN THIS 1964 PHOTO, IS MISSING AND PRESUMED DOWN IN NEVADA, THE AIR FORCE SAID FRIDAY. AN AIR FORCE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ADVANCED STRATEGIC RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT WAS ON A ROUTINE TEST FLIGHT AT THE TIME OF ITS DISAPPEARANCE. -UPI PHOTO"

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